

# **METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR DETECTING THE PRESENCE OF TARGET NUCLEIC ACIDS IN A SAMPLE**

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5           Methods and compositions for detecting the presence, e.g.,  
quantitatively, of a target nucleic acid, such as an siRNA, in a sample are  
provided. In the subject methods, a sample is contacted with at least two  
different ligation domains, which may be present on separate nucleic acids  
(e.g., oligonucleotides) or on the same complex, e.g., Combined Oligo, to  
10   produce a reaction mixture, where each of the different ligation domains  
includes a domain complementary to a different region of the target nucleic  
acid. The ligation domains of any resultant ligation domain/target nucleic acid  
complexes are then ligated to produce a pseudotarget nucleic acid. The  
presence of any resultant pseudotarget nucleic acids in the reaction mixture is  
15   then determined in order to detect the target nucleic acid in the sample. Also  
provided are systems and kits that find use in practicing the subject methods.  
The subject invention finds use in a variety of applications, including  
therapeutic applications.

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